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AF 2800

APPLICANT(S): Akira Mizumura ATTY DOCKET NO.: 09792909-5096
 SERIAL NO.: 09/907,373 GROUP ART UNIT: 2823
 DATE FILED: July 17, 2001 EXAMINER: Khiem Nguyen
 INVENTION: "METHOD OF PRODUCING A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE"

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AMENDMENT "B" AFTER FINAL

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents
 Washington D.C. 2023

SIR:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

Additional claim fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		(4) HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	17	MINUS	20	-0-	() X 9.00 () X 18.00	0.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	4	MINUS	4	-0-	() X 39.00 () X 80.00	0.00
Application amended to contain any multiple dependent claims not previously paid for.				() YES (X) NO	() \$135.00 () \$270.00 ONE TIME	
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0.00	

- Applicant petitions the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to extend this time for response to the Office Action dated _____ for _____ month so that the period for response is extended to _____.
 - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$ _____ to Attorney firm's American Express account no. to cover the extension of time fee. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.
 - A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached to cover the additional claim fee.
 - The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment to account No. 19-3140. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.
- When phoning re this application, please call 312/876-8000 - Ext. 2606.

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

DATE: March 4, 2003

BY Christopher P. Rauch (Reg. No. 45,034)
 Christopher P. Rauch

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

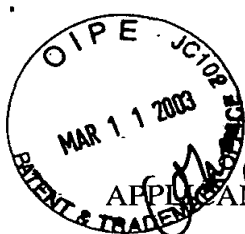
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box AF, Asst. Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 4, 2003.

Christopher P. Rauch
 Christopher P. Rauch

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to BOX AF, Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 4, 2003.

Christopher P. Rauch (Reg. No. 45,034)
Christopher P. Rauch



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

S I R:

This Amendment "B" is filed in response to the Final Office Action of December 4, 2002.
Please reconsider the application in view of the amendment and remarks presented below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

- b
- (Twice Amended) A method of producing a semiconductor device, the method comprising the steps of:
dry etching an upper layer pattern formed on an insulating film such that at least a part of the insulating film, which is formed above an element separation and a substrate, is exposed; and
after the dry etching, exposing a surface of the insulating film to a film formation atmosphere of the insulating film prior to forming additional layers upon the insulating film.

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 are pending in the application. In the Final Office Action of December 4, 2002, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Miyasaka*. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and addresses the Examiner's disposition below.

Applicant's independent claim 1 has been amended to correct minor informalities and to clarify the upper layer pattern is formed on the insulating film. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE".